

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 ACCRA 03474 100747Z

ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AGRE-00 CU-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-03

TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 LAB-04 EPG-02 SIL-01

OMB-01 /086 W

-----100952Z 109843 /10

R 091428Z MAY 77

FM AMEMBASSY ACCRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7928

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ACCRA 3474

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: PGOV, PINS, PINT, ECON, GH

SUBJ: ACHEAMPONG CALLS FOR GREATER EFFORTS TO PRODUCE FOOD

1. ADDRESSING A MAY 7 RALLY IN DOWNTOWN ACCRA ORGANIZED BY GA YOUTH ASSOCIATION AND GHANA PEACE AND SOLIDARITY COUNCIL, HEAD OF STATE ACHEAMPONG URGED GHANAIANS TO MAKE MAX MUM EFFORTS TO CURB FOOD SHORTAGES AND HIGH PRICES. HE STRESSED THAT THE PRINCIPLE OF ONE MAN ONE VOTE IS MEANINGLESS UNLESS LINKED UP WITH "THE PRINCIPLE OF ONE MAN ONE BREAD" (SIC). HE CRITICIZED HIS COUNTRYMEN FOR PURSUING SHORT CUTS TO INSTANT WEALTH, LEAVING THE ALREADY DWINDLING NUMBERS OF FARMERS TO DECLINE FURTHER. REPEATING HIS CALL TO GHANAIANS TO PLANT BACKYARD GARDENS, ACHEAMPONG WARNED THAT "IF SOME GHANAIANS CONTINUE TO BE LAZY BY DOING NOTHING TOWARDS THE NATIONAL EFFORTS, THEN THE GOVERNMENT MIGHT HAVE TO STEP IN AND COMPEL PEOPLE TO WORK." HE RECALLED THAT DURING WW II GHANAIANS HAD BEEN CONSCRIPTED AND SAID THAT "IF THE TIME COMES FOR US TO CONSCRIPT PEOPLE TO FIGHT IN OUR ECONOMIC WAR, THEY SHOULD NOT COMPLAIN." FINALLY, HE AGAIN LASHED OUT AT SMUGGLING, HOARDING AND OTHER FORMS OF ANTI-SOCIAL PROFITEERING.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 ACCRA 03474 100747Z

2. COMMISSIONER AND SPECIAL ADVISER TO THE HEAD OF STATE JOE APPIAH ALSO ADDRESSED THE DURBAR, CALLING ON GHANAIANS TO STAND BEHIND THE SUPREME MILITARY COUNCIL AND TO EMBRACE UNION GOVERNMENT. ALEX HUTTON-MILLS, TREASURER OF THE PEACE AND SOLIDARITY COUNCIL, ASSURED ACHEAMPONG IN HIS OWN SPEECH THAT THE GA YOUTH COMMITTEE WAS SOLIDLY IN FAVOR OF UNION GOVERNMENT.

3. COMMENT: BEFORE THE RALLY WE HAD SPECULATED THAT GIVEN GROWING HOSTILITY TOWARDS ACHEAMPONG'S FUMBLING EFFORTS TO COPE WITH GHANA'S ECONOMIC CRISIS, ANTI-REGIME DEMONSTRATIONS MIGHT CONCEIVABLY BREAK OUT. HOWEVER, THE MEETING WAS UNEVENTFUL AND POORLY ATTENDED. BOTH GRAPHIC AND TIMES EDITORIALY BACKED ACHEAMPONG'S CALL FOR GREATER FOOD PRODUCTION, HINTING THAT COERCION MIGHT BE NECESSARY IF VOLUNTARY EFFORTS FAIL. WE FEET THE REGIME WILL BE VERY CAREFUL ABOUT FORCING PEOPLE BACK TO THE LAND: IT LACKS THE CAPABILITY TO IMPLEMENT DRACONIAN MEASURES AND WILL NOT WANT TO FURTHER UNDERMINE ITS SHAKY SUPPORT BY SUCH UNPOPULAR STEPS. LINEHAN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOOD SHORTAGE, AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION, SPEECHES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 09-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977ACCRA03474
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770164-0057
Format: TEL
From: ACCRA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770580/aaaacrjz.tel
Line Count: 73
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 70954698-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2604728
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ACHEAMPONG CALLS FOR GREATER EFFORTS TO PRODUCE FOOD
TAGS: PGOV, PINS, PINT, ECON, EPAP, GH, (ACHEAMPONG, IGNATIUS KUTU)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/70954698-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009